

# Salmagundian

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## *Greetings*

### **To Salmagundi Members—Old and New**

In honor of the men who are no longer here and who gave us so much of their spirit in the founding of this great organization, we pause in memory and thanksgiving.

We who carry on today feel the strength they gave us and dedicate ourselves to the task of building a greater and richer life for those who follow us.

PERCY ALBEE

*President*

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### **Visit from St. Nick**

Christmas would not be Christmas without Salmagundi festivities. This year the season was indeed full. At the Christmas Stag Party, the clinking glass, the lusty song, pool and billiards again filled the Club with the joy of the season. Old-timers and new-comers rubbed elbows in every room. The air buzzed with stories, tales, reminiscences. Then, in the gallery the First Presbyterian Church choir from across the way, with Choirmaster Nevins directing, sang carols. It is generally hoped that this event, initiated by Gil Williams a year ago, will become a regular part of the Club's Christmas celebration.

At about this time, St. Nick, better known as Santa Marvin Jones, arrived with his bountiful bag of gifts. The gifts were large, small, beautiful, full of horse play, and doubly enriched by the spirit and good will of a top-notch Salmagundian, Doc. Jones.

A grand old Christmas custom was revived the next day with the Wassail Bowl Party which was open to members, wives and friends. Still another event—this on Sunday and for children—was the Pellew Puppets in an original version of "Punch and Judy". Santa Rypsam distributed suckers to the kids who had the

time of their lives.

Fifty-one and fifty-two met with a terrific bang on New Year's Eve. Over 140 reservations alone!! Paul Juley even called from Florida. Everybody, but Everybody was at the Club.

## *New Members Cocktail Party*

The new members cocktail party, followed by dinner and dancing, packed the gallery and dining room, Saturday, Dec. 8. A hit-or-miss count of noses indicated 85 members and wives at dinner alone.

"Happy Birthday to You," of course, was raised on high, with or without provocation (as it always is and should be), and no answers were awaited when revelers demanded, "Is he a member?" Incidentally, Al Groll was 85 that day.

Responding to an "enceinte" introduction by Howard Maeder, President Albee told the gathering that "this is a pregnant moment for Salmagundi, with the future looking very bright." The Club, he said, "looks to the new members to carry on the great tradition of our past."

The entire entertainment committee, with Russ Rypsam, chairman, Aiden Kenny, Wally Bollendonk, Frank Fellner, Cliff Young and Vincent La Gambina, can add another star to its record of achievement.

## **NEW MEMBERS' SHOW**

Twenty-one men have already said they want to exhibit their work at the new members' show to open soon. A good response, this is; but we still don't need wall stretchers. Curators Committee, Chairman, Frank Gervasi, says more paintings are wanted. A few members who cannot spend their paintings expressed their regrets and at the same time their hope to exhibit on another occasion.

## *Wives' Exhibition*

A special exhibition of paintings and engravings by members' wives was opened last month in the cocktail lounge. The ladies represented were: Mrs. Percy Albee, Mrs. Bruce Stevenson, Mrs. Arnold Knauth, Mrs. David Humphreys, Mrs. Charles Romans, Mrs. Edmund Oppenheim and Mrs. Syd Browne.

In this exhibition, a new club activity was set. The Curators Committee reports that with no records to go

by, it had to rely solely on its own knowledge of the participants' qualifications.

"This was limited therefore to women of whom the committee felt sure," it said, "because of the artist affiliation with art societies and annual exhibitions."

Much valuable time would have been lost, before an exhibition of this type could have been arranged, had the necessary questionnaire been sent to the entire membership. However, the interest this small exhibition aroused was gratifying and it is hoped another such exhibition may be arranged soon.

The committee is interested in hearing from members whose wives practice any branch of the fine arts professionally.

## THE THUMB BOX SHOW

One of the outstanding events of the past month was the Annual Exhibition of Thumb Box Sketches. Some 230 oils and water colors were placed on display Nov. 24, with many replacements added as time went on because of heavy sales. Paintings sold like hotcakes and by the time the show closed on Dec. 14, Art Committee Chairman Louis Jambor reports, an enthusiastic public had purchased 80 pictures, grossing \$4,525.

At the Club's Thumb Box Stag the night before the exhibition opened, prize winners were announced. The Vezin-James Prize of \$150 went to Ivan G. Olinsky for "Italian Madonna," the Anders Jordahl prize of \$50 to Walter Biggs for "Sunflower Alley," three prizes of \$25, \$15 and \$10, in memory of Emily G. Clinedinst, to Grattan Condon for "Harry's Wharf," Carl Setterberg, for "The Way of All Flesh," and Stephen Csoka for "Comedian," respectively, and Honorable Mention to John C. Pellew for "Admiration" and to S. Edmund Oppenheim for "Viola Player."

The New York Times, reporting on the exhibition, said that the paintings were "in fresh and impressionistic styles."

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## THE SALMAGUNDIA

SALMAGUNDIAN in this and succeeding issues appears in new format. Despite unstinting efforts on the part of Marvin Jones, Don Donaldson and others, and despite loyal and generous backing by advertisers, the fine editions of SALMAGUNDIAN which brightened our mail for the past few years had to be discontinued out of economic necessity.

However, we hope the new SALMAGUNDIAN serves in the same way all its predecessors did by keeping you informed—as well as our space and abilities permit—on member and Club activities. We hope

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## *Painting Demonstrations*

Last month Junius Allen gave a painting demonstration in the gallery to members and friends. Offers to buy were made before the painting was even off the easel. Henry Gasser is slated to give a demonstration on Thursday evening, Jan. 17, continuing this interesting series. By the way, Henry Gasser and Gordon Grant recently had exhibitions at the Grand Central Art Galleries. Also, word from The Town Hall Club reports a good reception to the exhibition of paintings by Salmagundi artists early last Fall.

## **GOING ... GOING ... GONE!**

### **The Fifty-third Annual Auction Exhibition**

The Fifty-third Annual Auction Exhibition will get under way Friday evening, Jan. 11, when prizes will be awarded at the Auction Stag. The next day, Saturday, the 12th, the exhibition will be opened formally with a Ladies Tea from 3 to 6 p.m. Dinner will be served in the Dining Room at 6 o'clock. The show will be open to the public every day until Jan. 25.

**WHAT AM I OFFERED?** — The hammer will start thumping the auction block Wednesday, the 23rd, at 8:30 p.m., with paintings up for sale each night through Friday, the 25th. On each of the three auction nights, the dining room will be open to ladies and guests, 6 to 8 o'clock.

**BRING A BUYER.** — Auctioneers will be Bill Kughler, Frank Bensing, Howard Claney, Ford Bond, Henry O'Connor, Howard Maeder. The exhibition promises to maintain the high standards of the Club's past auction shows and once again gives artists the opportunity of showing their affection for Salmagundi and lay members and Club friends a chance to acquire fine paintings. **BRING A BUYER.**

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## **CLUB'S NEW FORMAT**

to bridge the past with the future. If at the same time our few lines entertain, so much the better.

The welcome mat is out for all suggestions, criticisms, news and profiles of members, stories (fit to print, that is), member exhibitions, notes on our past, schemes, plots, vital statistics.

In fact, SALMAGUNDIAN'S mail box is just outside the dining room. No postage necessary. Give us anything and everything you want converted into print. It's your publication.

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## JANUARY CALENDAR

### A Great Month for a Great Club

Tuesday	1	New Year's Day (the dining room and bar will be closed)	
Friday	4	Board Meeting	5:00 p.m.
		Club Meeting	8:30 p.m.
Monday	7	Sketch Class (Members Only)	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	9	Play Reading Group	8:00 p.m.
		Sketch Class	7:30 p.m.
		(Members and Non Members)	
Friday	11	ANNUAL AUCTION EXHIBITION STAG	
		(Prizes announced)	8:30 p.m.
Saturday	12	LADIES TEA for the Annual Auction Exhibition from 3 to 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. followed by Dancing in the Gallery as late as you wish.	
Monday	14	Sketch Class (Members Only)	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	15	HUNTING IN AFRICA. An illustrated lecture by James Harley Nash	8:30 p.m.
Wednesday	16	Play Reading Group	8:00 p.m.
		Sketch Class	7:30 p.m.
		(Members and Non Members)	
Thursday	17	Painting Demonstration by Henry Gasser	8:30 p.m.
Monday	21	Sketch Class (Members Only)	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	23	1st AUCTION NIGHT	8:30 p.m.
Thursday	24	2nd AUCTION NIGHT.	8:30 p.m.
Friday	25	3rd AUCTION NIGHT.	8:30 p.m.
		The Dining Room will be open to Ladies and Guests during the three Auction Nights. Dinner will be served from 6 to 8:00 p.m.	
Monday	28	Sketch Class (Members Only)	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	30	Play Reading Group	8:00 p.m.
		Sketch Class	7:30 p.m.
		(Members and Non Members)	

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays—Ladies are Welcome  
Cocktails 4 to 6 p.m. Dinner 6 to 8 p.m.

To enable guests of members to make personal purchases at the Club, books of tickets in denominations of \$2.50 and \$5.00 will be issued upon endorsement by a member.

## CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION . . . Jan. Meeting

The December 7 general meeting elected the following new members: Robert W. Blinn, Ozni Brown and Chen Chi, all resident art members; Alexander Ross, of Wilton, Conn., non-resident artist, and George Higgins and Harold Canavello, resident lay members.

The following have been approved by the Admissions Committee for election: Eliot Putnam Batchelder, Ralph L. Carlson, Leslie Fliegel, Thos. Edward Fogarty, Michel Gilbert, Robert F. Kraeuter, Alexander William Mackenzie, Harold E. Marchant and Kenneth P. Snider, resident artists;

Also Richard Langseth Christensen, New Milford, Conn.; Tom Lovell, Westport, Conn.; Arthur Robert Mitchell, Staatsburg, N. Y.; and Raymond Ridabock, Saranac Lake, N. Y., all non-resident artists;

And Alvin J. Arnheim, Gordon K. Bishop, Louis A. Mignot and E. Beach Smith, all lay members.

### *Annual Oil Show Jury*

The receiving date for the Annual Oil Exhibition (Feb. 8-29) has been set for Feb. 1, according to Art Committee Chairman Louis Jambor. Members elected to the special oil jury are Frank Gervasi, chairman, Junius Allen, Gustav Ciniotti, Syd Browne, Louis Jambor, Louis Betts and Henry Nordhausen.

The exhibition will open Friday, Feb. 8 with a Stag. Saturday there will be the Ladies reception and Tea.

### *Special Lay Member Exhibition*

Frank Gervasi, chairman of the Curators Committee, reports that an exhibition in the lounge of the Club is proposed to bring out hidden Salmagundi talent. Lay Members (meaning doctors, lawyers, architects, engineers, bankers, writers, businessmen) who practice the art of painting as an avocation are invited to display their paintings. Notify the Curators Committee as soon as possible.

### *Employees Christmas Fund*

The employees of the Club wish to express their grateful appreciation to all the members who donated so generously to their Christmas Fund.

Mr. Chandler, Chairman of the House Committee, reports that the fund was the largest it has been for several years, about \$100 higher than last year. Again, Many Thanks!

The Employees

### **CONFIDENCE RACKET**

Many members have received letters from a Mexican prisoner offering a share in a cache of \$450,000. Evidently, the perpetrators of this confidence racket are circularizing the Club's membership. If you receive such a letter, the post office inspector's department would like to have it for its files. Just place the letter in an envelope and send it, without comment, to the following address: Post Office Inspector in Charge, New York, N. Y.